

[10191/2011]

FED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dittmar KLETT et al.

Serial No.

09/964,834

Filed

September 26, 2001

For

COMPACT SPARK PLUG AND METHOD FOR ITS

PRODUCTION

Examiner

Glenn ZIMMERMAN

Art Unit

2879

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on: Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

SIR:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-captioned application is an

Amendment.

While no fee is believed to be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any appropriate additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 7/8/03

By:

Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway

New York, New York 10004

(212) 425-7200

CUSTOMER NO. 26646

26646

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

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Date:

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of April 23, 2003 (the three month response date for which is July 23, 2002), please reconsider the above-identified application based on the following:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 26, without prejudice, with the following paragraph:

--Housing 22 is connected to insulator 12 by a welded connection 48. Welded connection 48 extends longitudinally up into threaded sleeve 26 from the end of housing 22 further from the base part. Welded connection 48 extends completely around the circumference lying transverse to the longitudinal direction. A gap between insertion nut 34 and insulator 12 is completely closed by welded connection this of

48. A gap formed between the end of threaded sleeve 26 further from the base part and insulator 12 is also completely closed by welded connection 48.--.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 8, line 1, without prejudice, with the following paragraph:

A2

Figure 2A shows, in a partial section view, a compact spark plug 10c which has no damping resistor. Functional elements shown in Figure 2A which are constructed essentially like those described with reference to Figure 1A have the same reference numbers in Figure 2A but are suffixed with the lowercase letter c. This particularly applies to reference numbers 12c to 36c. Central electrode 20c has a diameter in its main part which is smaller than the diameter of central electrode 20. This allows the diameter of through hole 18c and outer diameter Dc of insulator 12c to be reduced. Central electrode 20c is coated with a hard solder paste and then inserted through hole 18c into insulator 12c. A contact pin 100, made of, for example, a brass alloy, is inserted into through hole 18c. When terminal stud 36c is screwed in, contact pin 100 is compressed and buckles at multiple buckling positions.--.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 8, line 12, without prejudice, with the following paragraph:



--Central electrode 20c is secured by contact pin 100. Insulator 12c is then transported through a high vacuum furnace at a temperature of a magnitude between 600°C and 900°C, for example 800°C. The hard solder paste melts and connects central electrode 20c firmly and permanently with insulator 12c. This connection is also gas-tight. The hard solder paste is, for example, applied in the region of a shoulder 102, at which the inner diameter of through hole 18c decreases. Alternatively, central electrode 20c can be coated almost completely with hard solder paste, so that central electrode 20c and insulator 12c are also connected in the region of insulator base 14c.--.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 8, line 21, without prejudice, with the following paragraph: